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Portage des Sioux July 11th 1815

Sir,

We Commissioners appointed to Negotiate a treaty of peace with the tribes of Indians residing upon the Mississippi and its waters, who, at the time of the ratification of the late treaty with great Britain, were at war with the United States. We, in Conformity to our instructions, notified those tribes of the peace that had been Concluded and of the stipulations it Contained in regard to themselves; & at the same time invited them to attend by a deputation of chiefs at this place on the 6th Inst. for the purpose of Concluding a treaty of peace & amity between the U. S. & themselves.

The friendly overtures of the government, do not however appear to have been met by a Correspondent disposition on the part of those tribes

None of them have as yet sent forward a sufficient deputation to treat with us. Several of them have not Sent a single man; nor have we any reason to expect they will do so. and while a Considerable number of the most insignificant & Contemptible persons of the Sauks & foxes of Rock river, have attended without

more than one Chief; We have been informed & have reasons to believe that their principal Chiefs & warriors Continue to cherish the most inveterate & deadly hostility towards the american people & Govt & that war parties from those tribes recently started for our frontiers, which Statement is rendered the more probable by the occurrence of some very late acts of hostility of which they had previously Commited many, since they were informed of the peace.

The Rickapoos sent forward one Chief only & there are strong grounds to believe that they have identified themselves with the Sauks & Foxes in their late hostilities, & that they participate their present unfriendly disposition.

Those three tribes left here privately last night and we feel it our duty to State to you as our opinion that the exertion of the military power of the government will be necessary to Secure the peace & Safety of this Country.

We have the honor to be very respectfully
your Mo. Ob. Sv.

Wm Clark
Ninian Edwards
Aug. Chouteau

Letter from Messrs
Mr Clark & Edwards &
A Chouteau — Commissioners
Dec 11th 1813

Jun. ab Dan. Bidell

Belle Fountain